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AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

342 MADISON AVENUE

TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 2-1160

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Cable Address: AMZIONIST

NO. 6

October 11, 1949

HOLD MASS MEETINGS OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 6

To the Local Committees
of the AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL:

At this session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, now being held at Lake Success, the tortured problem of Palestine will again appear. This time it is a package of three items -- Jerusalem, Arab refugees, Negev. What these three terms mean was told in our letter to you of September 29.

If this program as a whole (or any one of the items) is accepted by the General Assembly, the State of Israel will be crippled for decades. Its struggle for peace and security will become an almost superhuman task. It will have to continue for years to sacrifice its economic welfare and development for its security. It will be unable to reduce its heavy military budget or release its army for constructive work.

Energetic, intelligent and coordinated action on the part of Americans -- acting through and in cooperation with the AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL and our Christian and liberal friends -- may yet frustrate the plans of the anti-Israeli forces in the United Nations.

* * *

This explosive package comes to the United Nations through its Conciliation Commission, whose report on Jerusalem is now on the agenda of the General Assembly. There is no need to repeat the arguments that have been advanced against the plan. Major Aubrey S. Eban's address at the General Assembly on the subject has been circulated in summarized form. You have also received the COUNCIL's analysis of the scheme.

It is anybody's guess as to when the issue will come up in the Political Committee, to which it has already been referred; or in the General Assembly, to whom the Political Committee should report. Perhaps it will be at the end of October or the first week of November. The Clapp Commission is expected to deal exclusively with the economic aspects of the refugee problem. This report is expected at Lake Success on or about November 1st. Tied up with the refugee problem is the question of the Negev and the revision of boundaries.

* * *

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion
Mizrachi Organization of America • United Zionist Labor Party (Achdut Avodah-Poale Zion) • Zionist Organization of America
Zionists-Revisionists of America

The gravest concern of the AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL is the fact that the United States Government (which through President Truman was so helpful in securing the adoption of the November 29, 1947 resolution; which gave its influence to get that resolution adopted by the United Nations; which was the first to recognize the new State of Israel and to help it financially through the Export-Import Bank) is now sponsoring and pressing for the three-pronged program in the General Assembly. In his opening address to the Assembly, Secretary of State Acheson stated the position of the United States in favor of the Jerusalem scheme. To date, no dissenting opinion has come from any official United States source.

* * *

The AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL, therefore, believes that there is urgent need at this time for American public opinion to express itself and to be registered in Government circles as opposed to the further badgering and threatening of the State of Israel, and as favoring the plan for the United Nations protection of the holy places instead of the internationalization of Jerusalem.

ARCHIVES
* * *

THE AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL HAS, THEREFORE, DECIDED TO CALL UPON ALL THE SUPPORTERS OF OUR CAUSE -- AND ESPECIALLY OUR LOCAL COMMITTEES -- TO ORGANIZE AND HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS BETWEEN THE DATES OF OCTOBER 30 AND NOVEMBER 6. AT THESE MEETINGS STATEMENTS DEFENDING OUR POSITION SHOULD BE MADE BY OUR SPEAKERS AND RESOLUTIONS SHOULD BE ADOPTED URGING PRESIDENT TRUMAN TO DIRECT THE AMERICAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS TO FAVOR THE COMMON-SENSE SOLUTION OF THE JERUSALEM PROBLEM WHICH IS BEING ADVOCATED BY THE ISRAELI DELEGATION.

We suggest that you utilize every facility of your own and neighboring communities in supplying speakers at these public meetings.

These resolutions and statements should be presented by a small delegation to your Congressmen and, wherever possible, to your United States Senators. Fill out the enclosed postal card and return it to the office of the COUNCIL, 342 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y. Be sure to send the COUNCIL a full report of your meetings and a copy of the resolutions adopted.

With Zion's greetings,

Louis Lipsky

Louis Lipsky
Chairman

LL:SR
Enc.

P.S. If you have not already done so, please send us the names of the officers of your reorganized local committees. It is imperative that you do this without delay.

AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

342 MADISON AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Telephone
MURRAY HILL 2-1160

Cable Address
AMZIONIST

September 15, 1949

To the Local Committees
of the AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL:

The new Administration of the AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL sends its Rosh Hashonah greetings to its national and local affiliates. May the coming year bring better times for Israel and the Jewish people.

After the summer lull in our activities, due in large measure to the difficulties of reorganization, we address ourselves to our loyal co-workers and call upon them to renew their efforts on a more extensive scale to mobilize American public opinion on behalf of the people and the State of Israel.

The work of the COUNCIL must be continued with greater vigor and devotion *and tact* than ever before. Israel has a long way to go to reach its goal of security and peace. No peace treaties have as yet been signed with any of the Arab states. Disturbing reports reach us that the United States Government is exercising pressure upon Israel to make *large territorial concessions to the Arab states*, which would impair the independence and security of the new-born State. Demands are continuing for the acceptance by Israel of *large numbers of refugee Arabs* whose return to Israel would not only jeopardize its economy, but would serve as the basis of a fifth column within Israel. A powerful influence is being exerted by various groups to force the exclusion of the *Holy City of Jerusalem* from the State of Israel. The denial of these reports by official circles is not convincing.

It is, therefore, the duty of the AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL and its affiliates to support the State of Israel and to protect Zionist public relations in the United States with all the devotion and zeal and energy which the situation requires. Our voices and our influence must be heard again.

* * *

It is important to point out that radical changes have taken place within the Zionist structure. New relationships have developed since the State of Israel was established on May 14, 1948.

An Israeli Embassy functions in Washington with Eliahu Elath as Ambassador at its head. An Israeli Consulate functions in New York with Arthur Lourie at its head. Other Israeli consular offices have been, and are being established in other cities. These represent and act for the Government of Israel in the fields of diplomacy, commerce and finance. They operate in the same way as do the embassies and consulates of other foreign governments.

Constituent Organizations

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion
Mizrachi Organization of America • United Zionist Labor Party (Achdut Avodah-Poale Zion) • Zionist Organization of America
Zionists-Revisionists of America

The American Section of the Jewish Agency has offices and staff in New York City. It acts for the Executive of the whole Jewish Agency in all over-all Zionist representations in South America and Canada, as well as, to a certain extent, in the United States. Although the members of the American Section are American citizens they do not speak or act as representatives of American Zionist bodies. They are spokesmen for the World Zionist Movement.

The AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL, however, *represents all recognized Zionist bodies in the United States and acts as the policy-making and public relations body for the entire Zionist movement in this country. It is not a foreign, but a domestic body.* On behalf of hundreds of thousands of American citizens deeply concerned with the stability and security of the people in the State of Israel, it makes its views known to American organs of public opinion and to Government officials. It has its own approach to the American Congress.

* * *

The program of the Council will be extended to include an intensive educational effort to interpret Israel and its people to all classes of American citizens, and to *create the background for any public relations mass action we may be called upon to initiate from time to time. The groundwork for such mass action with respect to Jerusalem, Arab refugees and the Negev is now being prepared.*

* * *

To the end that our local committees may be strengthened and prepared to face the new tasks of the Council, it is desirable and urgent that the local committees be reorganized.

You are asked to call a special meeting of your local Zionist leaders -- at which all local Zionist groups, as well as interested Jewish groups, will be represented -- not later than September 29th. This meeting should be devoted to a review of the present political situation affecting Israel, your own public relations program relevant thereto, and the election of officers, as well as the appointment of chairmen of committees. The following committees should be set up: *on press and radio; on political contacts; on religious and academic contacts; on labor contacts; on civic groups contacts; on liaison with the American Christian Palestine Committee.*

We urge that the officers and chairmen should be elected on the basis of *their qualifications and their ability to establish the contacts essential for the success of our program.*

After your meeting has been held and your officers elected, send without delay their names and addresses to the AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL, 342 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y., ATTENTION OF JEROME UNGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

This is a call to prepare for action! The peace and security of Israel demand our immediate attention. To that task we are called upon to give continuously the best that is in us with vigor, imagination and tact. We are confident that our efforts will be crowned with success, and that the enemies of our cause in due course will suffer another defeat.

With Zion's greetings,

Louis Lipsky

Louis Lipsky
Chairman

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

on behalf of JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL
UNITED SERVICE FOR NEW AMERICANS



165 West 46th Street, N. Y. 19, N. Y. Plaza 7-1500

Cable Address, UJAPPEAL, New York

September 12, 1949

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Honorary Chairman
HERBERT H. LEHMAN
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MRS. FELIX M. WARBURG

National Chairman
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Director
HENRY MONTOR

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HAROLD J. GOLDENBERG,
Chairman

Initial Gifts
SAMUEL ROTHENBERG,
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CHARLES FRUCHTMAN
Associate Chairmen

National Women's Division
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Honorary Chairman
MRS. ERNEST G. WADEL,
Chairman

National Trades and Industries
HERMAN GILMAN,
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Regional Division
JULIAN B. VENEZKY,
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Metropolitan Cities Division
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Chairman

National Co-Treasurers
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JACOB SINCOFF

National Field Directors
H. LEE GOLDBY
SHOLEM SONTUP

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Temple Emanuel
1595 Pearl St.
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

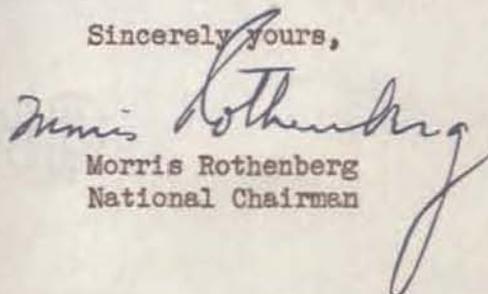
At Washington over the weekend the dangerously critical cash position of the United Jewish Appeal was presented to representatives from all parts of the country at an Emergency Conference. It was made clear that the complete breakdown of all the facilities for the absorption of Jewish immigration into Israel is imminent. Meeting constantly and hearing the most detailed reports in executive session, the representatives present were so moved by the facts of the situation that they called upon the Jews of America to take "extraordinary action to meet an extraordinary emergency."

They felt that the hazards to all that we have achieved in the past ten years are so great that they asked for all possible cash at once. Even more than that, they pleaded that every community in the United States through cash efforts and through borrowings on the largest scale from every source should make available immediately to the UJA in cash the full amount that would be intended for the UJA as the result of the 1949 campaign.

Enclosed herewith are copies of the Resolutions which were adopted at the Conference on September 10th and 11th. In the belief of all those present the situation with which we are confronted is the most serious in the ten years since the establishment of the United Jewish Appeal.

It would be more helpful than I could say if you would cooperate immediately in the implementation of these resolutions by yourself and your community. Life and death are the issues which we are called upon to resolve. No haste can be too great, no effort too large in order to halt disaster before it comes.

Sincerely yours,


Morris Rothenberg
National Chairman

MR:PFF
Encs.

EMERGENCY NATIONAL CONFERENCE - UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
WASHINGTON, D. C. SEPTEMBER 10-11, 1949

RESOLUTION ON CASH CRISIS

Today the economic foundations of Israel are endangered because the resources required for the absorption of the vast immigration have not been made available. We American Jews must shoulder our full share of responsibility in this common enterprise.

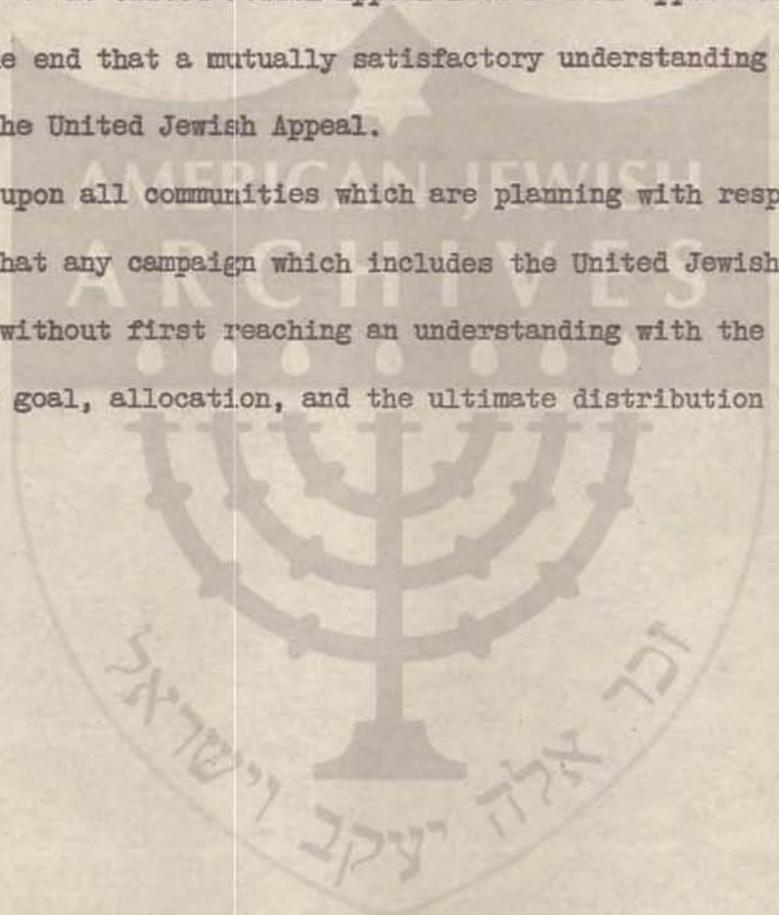
Having heard a detailed description of the financial plight of the agencies concerned with immigration into Israel and of the other agencies of the United Jewish Appeal at the Emergency National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal held in Washington, D. C. on September 10th-11th, 1949, we, the delegates assembled, call upon the Jewish community of America to take extraordinary action to meet an extraordinary emergency.

Because the life and death of individuals is at stake, we call upon every contributor to translate his pledge into cash immediately. We call upon the communities of America to mobilize all contributors for an extraordinary cash collection in order to meet the critical financial position arising from this immigration into Israel. We urge every community to provide for the United Jewish Appeal within the coming weeks the total amount that would be intended for the United Jewish Appeal as a result of the 1949 campaigns and to achieve that objective not only through cash collections but through borrowings from banks, individuals and every other source possible.

Because of the inadequacy of funds available to the United Jewish Appeal to meet critical needs, we urge all Jewish communities to conduct supplementary campaigns for the United Jewish Appeal, wherever feasible.

Wherever allotments to the United Jewish Appeal have already been made, we urge that they be reviewed and reconsidered in consultation with representatives of the United Jewish Appeal so that full consideration may be given to the critical emergency needs of the United Jewish Appeal. We urge upon all communities which have not yet made allotments for 1949 to defer such decision until representatives of the United Jewish Appeal have had an opportunity of presenting its needs, to the end that a mutually satisfactory understanding may be reached with regard to the United Jewish Appeal.

We urge upon all communities which are planning with respect to 1949 or 1950 campaigns that any campaign which includes the United Jewish Appeal shall not be launched without first reaching an understanding with the United Jewish Appeal regarding goal, allocation, and the ultimate distribution of funds raised.



EMERGENCY NATIONAL CONFERENCE - UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
WASHINGTON, D. C. SEPTEMBER 10-11, 1949

RESOLUTION ON 1950 CAMPAIGN

In view of the urgent nature of the problems facing the American Jewish community in relation to its tasks in Israel, Europe and the United States, we strongly urge upon all American Jewish communities that as regards any planning for 1950 they refrain from making any commitments, including those relating to capital funds, until after the National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal on November 25, 1949, shall have been held.

MEMBERS OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
 EMERGENCY NATIONAL CONFERENCE - UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
 WASHINGTON, D. C. SEPTEMBER 10-11, 1949

Ezra Z. Shapiro, Chairman, Cleveland, Ohio

Herbert R. Abeles	Newark, N. J.	Joseph Meyerhoff	Baltimore, Md.
Sam J. Beierfield	Louisville, Ky.	Fred Monosson	Boston, Mass.
Morris W. Berinstein	Syracuse, N. Y.	Henry Montor	New York, N. Y.
Judge Maurice Bernon	Cleveland, Ohio	Leonard Moss	Jacksonville, Fla.
Henry C. Bernstein	New York, N. Y.	Irving S. Norry	Rochester, N. Y.
Solomon Boxer	Troy, N. Y.	Max Ogust	New York, N. Y.
Louis Boyar	Los Angeles, Cal.	Herman M. Pekarsky	Newark, N. J.
Hyman Brand	Kansas City, Mo.	B. M. Pelavin	Flint, Mich.
Raphael Brandes	Tucson, Ariz.	Samuel H. Rivin	Missoula, Mont.
Charles Bromberg	Paterson, N. J.	Henry H. Rocker	Cleveland, Ohio
Morris B. Chain	Bakersfield, Cal.	Dan S. Rosenberg	St. Paul, Minn.
Sidney S. Cohen	Boston, Mass.	William Rosenwald	New York, N. Y.
Samuel H. Daroff	Philadelphia, Pa.	Harry Rothberg	Los Angeles, Calif.
Leon J. Ell	Miami Beach, Fla.	Samuel Rothberg	Peoria, Ill.
E. J. Evans	Durham, N. C.	Meyer Ruchman	Ft. Wayne, Ind.
Emanuel E. Falk	Newport News, Va.	A. B. Saeks	Dayton, Ohio
Henry S. Frank	Baltimore, Md.	Sol Satinsky	Philadelphia, Pa.
Herman Gilman	Boston, Mass.	Morris Senderowitz, Jr.	Allentown, Pa.
David Glosser	Johnstown, Pa.	Abe Shugerman	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Abraham Goodman	Shelbyville, Ind.	Maurice J. Sievers	Cincinnati, Ohio
Mrs. Jack A. Goodman	Indianapolis, Ind.	Archibald Silverman	Providence, R. I.
Moritz M. Gottlieb	Allentown, Pa.	Jacob Sincoff	New York, N. Y.
E. N. Grueskin	Sioux City, Iowa	Eugene M. Solow	Dallas, Tex.
Mrs. Rose Halprin	New York, N. Y.	Rudolf G. Sonneborn	New York, N. Y.
Mrs. Walter E. Heller	Chicago, Ill.	Arthur Taubman	Roanoke, Va.
Joseph Holtzman	Detroit, Mich.	Albert Tenenbaum	Savannah, Ga.
Marvin H. Itts	Youngstown, Ohio	I. S. Turover	Washington, D. C.
Adolph Kiesler	Denver, Colo.	Julian B. Venezky	Peoria, Ill.
Ben Kopelove	Dayton, Ohio	Elkan C. Voorsanger	Milwaukee, Wisc.
Moses A. Leavitt	New York, N. Y.	Jack D. Weiler	New York, N. Y.
Ivan Levenson	Newark, N. J.	Aaron Weiss	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Leon L. Levy	Trenton, N. J.	Harry A. Wolf	Omaha, Nebr.
Louis A. Lewis	Bridgeton, N. J.	Mandle Zaban	Atlanta, Ga.
Philip M. Liebschutz	Rochester, N. Y.	Henry Zucker	Cleveland, Ohio
Sol Luckman	Cincinnati, Ohio	Baruch Zuckerman	New York, N. Y.

American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York City

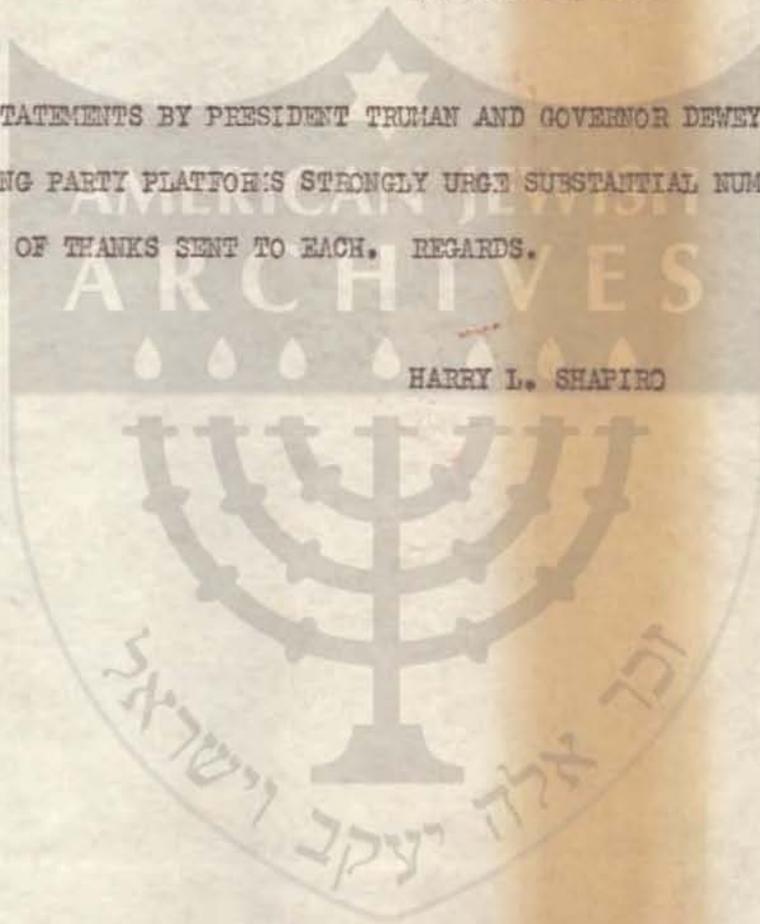
THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM WAS SENT TO THE CHAIRMEN OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
COMMITTEES

OCTOBER 25, 1948

IN VIEW STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT TRUMAN AND GOVERNOR DEWEY
REAFFIRMING PARTY PLATFORM'S STRONGLY URGE SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF
TELEGRAMS OF THANKS SENT TO EACH. REGARDS.

HARRY L. SHAPIRO

HLS:PH



MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date September 9, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

A book highly favorable to the Zionist cause is shortly to be published. Its title is DESTINATION PALESTINE: The story of the Haganah ship Exodus 1947, written by Ruth Gruber and to be published on September 13 by A. A. Wyn, Inc. (\$2.50).

Bartley Crum, in his introduction to the book, calls the Exodus story "a pivot on which world history turned." He goes on to say: "No other event in 1947 was as important as the odyssey of the Exodus. It made possible, in fact, the United Nations vote for a democratic state in Palestine, a Jewish State in that land."

The book contains 32 pages of on-the-spot photographs taken by the author herself in Palestine, on the island of Cyprus, and aboard the prison ships to which the refugees were transferred. Miss Gruber was the only correspondent who managed to take pictures of actual conditions aboard the prison ships -- pictures which the British made several vain attempts to confiscate, but which eventually were released to the press throughout the world. It was as foreign correspondent for the New York Herald Tribune that the author covered the attempted landing of the Exodus at Haifa.

Although seemingly devoted solely to the recounting of a tale now gone into history, this volume, from our point of view, carries a public-relations impact as timely as tomorrow morning's newspaper. For it forthrightly unmasks the brutality and hypocrisy behind Britain's dealing with the Jews, and may even bring some present supporters of Britain's Palestine policy in our own country to a reappraisal of the situation and to a clearer understanding of Britain's present-day maneuvering in Washington and at the UN for the weakening of Israel.

The book is "must" reading for every Zionist; but it is even more vital that it be given the widest circulation and publicity among non-Jews in your community. I would request, therefore, that you take the following steps to ensure the realization of the above objectives.

1. Announce the publication of the book to your local membership at your next meeting and through your local bulletin or journal, should you print one. Urge your membership to purchase copies of DESTINATION PALESTINE at your local bookstores.
2. Arrange for your committee to purchase a number of copies for presentation to key personalities in your community. These should include your newspaper editors, radio commentators, prominent churchmen, local and state political figures as well as your Congressmen and U. S. Senators. (Do not overlook any candidates for important public office.)

3. Request the rabbis in your community to discuss the book from their pulpits some time during the next four weeks.
4. You can stimulate reviews of the book by presenting a copy to the editor of your local Anglo-Jewish weekly, as well as to the book editor of your daily newspapers.

Should your Committee desire to purchase a minimum of 20 copies of the book, please inform me to that effect and we shall secure for you the publishers' discount for such purposes. Please keep me informed as to your activities in connection with DESTINATION PALESTINE.

Regards.

HLS:EB



MEMORANDUM

To. Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date September 8, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Attached is a statement issued today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. The latter part of it is an up-to-the-minute review of our present political situation and gives a clear indication of the line to be followed by our constituencies during the coming weeks.

A careful reading of the statement will show that we are dangerously close to the position we were in on March 19th last when the American Government reversed its policy and set in motion strenuous efforts to undo the partition decision of the General Assembly.

That we were able to bring our Government back to a realization of its responsibilities and a subsequent change in its attitude towards Israel is due in the largest measure to the loyal and effective work of the American Jewish community and its organized Zionist bodies.

A similar task lies before us now. Upon the outcome of this effort rests not only the UN decision of November 29th, but the future of the State of Israel itself. America still holds the key position and if we permit its actions to be dictated by British foreign policy and other special interests, the result for Israel may be catastrophic.

The following are the tasks we must set before us and carry out with every energy at our command:

1. Request every influential person and organization in your community -- Jewish and non-Jewish, civic, religious, labor -- to wire or write to the President setting forth in clear and unmistakable terms that they look to him to save the honor and the pledged word of our Government by fulfilling the promises contained in the Democratic Party platform.
2. Set up committees to visit newspaper editors, columnists and radio commentators to bring them up to date on the issues involved and to elicit public comment favorable to our cause. Orientation material to aid you in this task is enclosed on the questions of de jure recognition, economic aid and immigration. (Within a few days we will send you material on admission of the State of Israel into the United Nations for a follow up effort.) Please send us copies of the editorials which appear in your local newspapers resulting from this effort.
3. Set up committees and ask influential persons to visit the leaders of both political parties in your city, county and state.

Remind the heads of the Democratic Party of the plank in their platform which commits their Party to give political and economic aid to the infant State. Call their attention to the glaring fact that within recent months the President of our country and the head of their Party has been strangely silent while the State Department has continued its efforts to undermine the State of Israel. The loan of one hundred million dollars, which was promised, is now "postponed". Jews in the DP camps of Europe are restrained from exercising their right to go to Israel. American citizens who wish to visit Israel are denied passports and every action by the State Department is clearly designed to ape the pattern set up by Mr. Bevin's Foreign Office.

Remind the Republican leaders of their platform and their promises. Call their attention to the failure of any of their leading spokesmen to publicly mention the absence of positive and constructive Government action with regard to Israel. No Republican leader has as yet protested the failure of our Government to keep its pledged word. Ask them if this is a conspiracy of silence. If the foreign policy of our Government is a two-party policy then the Republicans must share equally with the Democrats the blame for the shameful behavior of our State Department towards Israel and towards the helpless refugees who are still penned up in concentration camps three years after the so-called peace.

Every indication points to another March 19th. We are told that the loan to Israel is to be held up pending inquiries into the stability of the State of Israel. Need we remind our politicians that they did not inquire into the stability of Greece and China before pouring hundreds of millions of dollars into these countries presumably in an effort to lay a foundation for stability. Need we remind our politicians that the United Nations Security Council specifically made provisions for the admission of men of military age into Israel, and that despite repeated assurances by Count Bernadotte that he never requested their exclusion, our State Department and our military authorities repeat in Germany and in Austria what Bevin is doing in Cyprus.

There is much to protest and now is the time to make that protest heard and felt. The task is yours and that of the men and women of your community. The coming eight weeks will be critical ones for Israel. We must devote ourselves to the tremendous job ahead. We must not fail! Please let me have a report from you on your activities as requested above.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Encs.

MEMORANDUM

DE JURE RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

On the day of its proclamation, May 14, 1948, the Provisional Government of Israel was accorded de facto recognition by the Government of the United States. Though almost four months have elapsed since that date, full, so-called de jure, recognition is still being withheld by our Government from Israel.

It is often argued that the withholding of de jure recognition from Israel by the Government of the United States is due to technical reasons, notably to the "provisional" character of the present Government of Israel, to the absence of clearly defined frontiers and to generally unsettled conditions in that country. This argument is used to indicate that the withholding of de jure recognition does not denote any animosity on the part of the policy-making officials in the Department of State toward Israel.

The argument is totally incorrect. Full de jure recognition has often been accorded in the past by the United States to foreign governments which were provisional in character, and have ruled over an ill-defined territory amid disturbed conditions. These were the circumstances in which the provisional governments of Poland and Czechoslovakia were given full recognition after both World Wars. The Government of China and the Provisional Government of France were given de jure recognition in similar circumstances.

The withholding of full recognition from Israel after months of proven stability cannot therefore be justified by reference to precedent. It is, on the contrary, an indication that the Department of State, whose hostility to Israel is well known, has prevailed upon the President to withhold from Israel even that measure of cooperation which is normally extended to other countries.

The situation will appear even clearer if one considers that out of fifteen countries which have accorded diplomatic recognition to Israel, thirteen have granted full recognition. The only country beside the United States which has given to its recognition a limited de facto character is the Union of South Africa, a Dominion of the British Empire which, of course, is anxious to bow to the desires of the London government.

* * * * *

9/8/48

NOTE ON ECONOMIC AID TO ISRAEL

Amid conflicting reports and careful buck-passing between the White House, the Department of State and the Export-Import Bank, one fact has become clear: if the Administration can get away with it, Israel is not going to get any economic aid from the Government of the United States. The reasons used to justify this attitude shift: one day they are political, the next day technical, the third day they are due to "disturbed conditions" in Israel, the fourth day "the loan application is still under study." It is difficult to pin down the precise reason, just as it is difficult to pin down the party responsible for this denial of economic aid. But the fact remains.

It is perhaps unnecessary, at this late date, to take the reasons too seriously. Most people are aware by now that they are mere alibis. Still, let us keep some comparisons in mind.

Fierce civil wars rage in China and in Greece, and yet these countries receive economic aid. But Israel, where there reigns complete internal peace, is deemed too "disturbed" to be eligible for aid.

The Arab countries are still engaged in open aggression. Their armies are on the soil of Palestine, not a day passes without Jews or United Nations personnel dying from their bullets, they interfere with American and foreign shipping, and they keep their Jewish inhabitants in a state of abject terror. And yet these countries are considered eligible for American economic aid in different forms. But Israel is offered one postponement after another, one excuse after another.

Behind the scenes, the explanation is whispered that the United States and Great Britain wish to coordinate their policies on this issue: America should withhold assistance from Israel, while Britain would withhold aid from the Arabs. But this explanation too is untrue. Economic aid to Arabs is given both by America and by Britain. Military aid by Britain to Transjordan has been resumed. The truth is that Israel is being singled out for economic discrimination. Almost alone of all the countries outside the Soviet bloc it is denied American aid, despite the pledges to the contrary. The explanations vary, the denial remains.

* * * * *

9/8/48

MEMORANDUM

THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE ON TRAVEL TO ISRAEL

Two measures of far-reaching importance have been taken by our Government toward Israel. On the one hand, the Department of State is withholding passports from American citizens desirous of visiting Israel, especially if the visitors are men between the ages of 18 and 45. On the other hand, the same Department has issued instructions to the authorities of the American zone of occupation in Europe to restrict the emigration of Jewish Displaced Persons between the ages of 18 and 45 to Palestine.

These two acts, better than any words, illustrate the real attitude of the Department of State toward Israel. There is nothing in the truce resolution of the United Nations that would justify individual countries in taking such a course. On the contrary, a proposal to restrict the admission to Israel of persons of military age was debated and rejected by the Council, and the resolution expressly provides for the conditions under which persons of military age entering Israel in the course of the truce should be prevented from obtaining military training or joining military forces.

In taking the two steps named above, the Department of State is therefore not acting in accordance with a Security Council resolution. The attempt of the Department to place part of the responsibility for these acts on Count Bernadotte, the United Nations Mediator, by leaving it to him whether "clearance" is to be given to immigrants of military age to proceed to Israel is ingenious but hardly convincing. Since the Truce Resolution does not give the Count any powers to control immigration to Israel, such powers can certainly not be given to him by the Department of State in Washington. At best, the Count is used by the Department for buck-passing purposes. At worst, the Department is engaged in collusion with the Count to misinterpret the meaning of the UN resolution.

The action of the Department of State is calculated to interfere with the right of American citizens to visit freely a friendly country, to hamper the legitimate interests of Israel, and -- above all -- to deny the hope of the Displaced Jews of Europe.

This latter aspect, coming as it does after years of insistence by President Truman that the humanitarian task of permitting the Jewish Displaced Persons to go to Palestine ought not to be postponed on account of political considerations, is particularly obnoxious. As the New York Herald-Tribune pointed out editorially on September 6th, this act of the United States Government is similar to British practice on Cyprus. As Great Britain has become the jailer of Jewish refugees on that island, so, but on a much larger scale, are the pro-British and pro-Arab officials of the State Department making President Truman the jailer of the multitudes of Jewish refugees in the American Zone of occupation.

9/8/48

PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Associated Organizations

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. SILVER DEPLORES LACK OF POSITIVE ACTION ON PART OF
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO FURTHER WELFARE OF ISRAEL

New York, Sept. 8 -- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American section of the World Zionist Organization and of the American Zionist Emergency Council, issued the following statement on his return from Israel:

"I have just returned from Israel where I attended the meetings of the Actions Committee of the World Zionist Organization. It was the first meeting of this body since the establishment of the State of Israel. The chief problems before the meeting were, first, the separation and the definition of functions as between the World Movement and the State of Israel; and secondly, the reorganization of the work of the World Zionist Movement in order that it might serve most effectively in assisting the State to absorb the large number of immigrants who will wish to settle in Israel.

"The deliberations of the Actions Committee were eminently successful. A clear separation was effected between the State and the Movement. Ministers of the State who had been members of the Executive of the World Zionist Organization handed in their resignations and others, not of the Government, took their place. It was further resolved that no part of the funds of the World Zionist Organization will be contributed directly or indirectly to the Government of Israel for any purposes whatsoever, but that the Organization will carry on its own work in Israel directed to the settlement and the economic absorption of new immigrants, and for other charitable purposes. This separation was advocated by the American

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Zionists and was finally accepted by the entire movement.

"Another achievement of the Actions Committee meeting was the extension of the Executive to include members of the two parties who heretofore had not been included -- the United Workers Party and the Revisionists. This establishes complete unity among all the parties within the movement. This too has for some time been urged by the American Zionists. It was also resolved to set up in the United States some of the Departments of the Movement which heretofore had their headquarters in Jerusalem, more especially, the Department of Economic Organization. It was realized that due to the economic and political significance of the United States and of the Jewish community here, which is the largest in the world, an important center of the World Zionist Movement should be maintained in the United States.

"I found the spirit of the people in Israel at a high pitch of confidence. The military victories which had been achieved have greatly buoyed them up. They succeeded in defending their State by force of arms and they feel confident that they will continue to do so in the future. They are strong and their strength is increasing. I found them restive under the truce. They welcomed the truce in the hope that it would lead to a speedy peace settlement. But their direct approach to the Arab states for peace negotiations was rebuffed. As a result grave skepticism as to the value of the truce has spread through the entire population. If the Arab states are resolved, as they have proclaimed, never to recognize the State of Israel, what purpose is there in the prolongation of a truce which is becoming a severe drain upon the economy of the new State? The position of Count Bernadotte has likewise suffered a serious decline as a result of his shocking proposal to turn Jerusalem over to Abdullah as his capital, and as a result of his baffling and contradictory opinions on the subject of the immigration of men of military age into Israel.

"There is a growing feeling among the people in the State of Israel that our State Department is again collaborating with Mr. Bevin. They feel that our

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State Department has put every obstacle in the way of the full recognition of Israel. It has blocked a United States loan to the new State. It has interfered with the free movement of refugees to Israel from the American occupation zones on the basis of an unwarranted interpretation of the terms of the truce. The American Government has thus placed itself in line with the British Government, which, contrary to all law, has kept 13,000 Jewish refugees of military age in detention camps in Cyprus, and has prohibited them from emigrating to Israel. The American Government has further denied passports to American citizens who desire to go to Israel. The feeling is prevalent that our State Department is again following the lead of the British Colonial and Foreign Offices. There is, therefore, a growing concern as to the attitude of the United States Delegation at the coming sessions of the United Nations in Paris.

"The present hope of Mr. Bevin, now that a military victory over Israel is no longer to be expected, is that a prolonged truce will prove such an economic strain on the country that Israel will be prepared to accept a peace settlement agreeable to Great Britain. The people in Israel wonder whether the American Government is falling in line with this new pressure politics of Mr. Bevin. They wonder whether President Truman is fully aware of all that is going on and whether his Administration approves of it all.

"It is clear to them that the key to peace in Palestine is still in the hands of the United States. Only positive action on the part of this Government, such as de jure recognition and a loan, will persuade the Arab states that this Government is very sincere and earnest about its intentions with regard to the State of Israel and will persuade them to sit down and negotiate."

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date August 4, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

During the coming weeks, Israel will make a bid for admission into the United Nations. The attainment of this objective would be facilitated if the American delegation to the UN would take the initiative in urging Israel's membership in the United Nations. It would be very helpful if newspapers would editorially advocate such a step.

Attached is a memorandum on the subject, "The Admission of the State of Israel to the United Nations". It is background material in connection with this aspiration of the State of Israel. Please convey its contents to your local editors and try to induce them to write a favorable editorial or feature article on this subject.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Enc.

MEMORANDUM

THE ADMISSION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted on November 29, 1947, provided:

"When the independence of either the Arab or the Jewish State as envisaged in this plan has become effective and the declaration and undertaking, as envisaged in this plan, have been signed by either of them, sympathetic consideration should be given to its application for admission to membership in the United Nations in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations."
(Paragraph 1-F)

The question now arises whether the State of Israel should be admitted to the United Nations at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly in Paris.

I. ISRAEL'S QUALIFICATIONS

1) The Origin of the State:

Israel is the first state in history to be created as a result of the investigations, deliberations and decisions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Its credential for admission is thus a unique international birth certificate inscribed with a distinguished and honorable parentage. Thirty-three nations voted for the General Assembly's Resolution, and would therefore seem to have a moral commitment to favor Israel's early admission.

2) The Existence of the State:

Israel's existence is now a fact of international life of which the whole world is aware.

a) External Recognition:

Although admission to the United Nations and recognition are not synonymous - and many states which have sought admission have not had as many recognitions as the State of Israel - it is significant that the State of Israel was accorded recognition by fifteen powers in less than ten weeks time. These include:

United States	Yugoslavia	Finland
Guatemala	Nicaragua	Roumania
U.S.S.R.	Uruguay	Costa Rica
Poland	South Africa	Panama
Czechoslovakia	Hungary	Venezuela

b) Internal Recognition:

Fundamental in the establishment of a state is the writ of authority it derives from its own people and its capacity to control its area

and carry on the functions of government. The record of performance since May 15 has demonstrated the representative character of the organs of government established in Israel, their loyal acceptance by the people, and their competence to create a smoothly operating apparatus of government serving all the needs of the people.

The United Nations Mediator attested to this achievement in Paragraph 34 of his report to the Security Council:

"The de facto situation in Palestine today is that a Jewish Provisional Government, recognized by an increasing number of states, exists in an area of Palestine, and is exercising, without restrictions of any kind on its authority or power, all the attributes of full sovereignty, including the waging of war." (In Paragraph 17, the Mediator described the war as a defensive one.)

Moreover, although Israel was attacked by six Arab States within a few hours of the proclamation of its independence, its people rose loyally to its defense and not only repelled all attacks but succeeded in carrying the war to the enemy's territory.

II. FIDELITY TO THE UNITED NATIONS

1) Israel's Orientation to the United Nations:

Israel has given ample evidence of its independence and its freedom from the domination of foreign powers. The very fact that its birth was attended by a union of great powers which have been divided on other issues has developed in Israel an international attitude oriented to the United Nations and to that body alone.

2) Israel's Relations with the United Nations:

Since its establishment, the State of Israel has fully and faithfully responded to every decision and appeal of the United Nations and its organs. More than half a dozen times the State of Israel willingly complied with calls made upon it by the Security Council, despite the fact that those calls equated aggressor and victim and imposed onerous obligations and conditions which should have been reserved for the aggressors against Israel. This scrupulous and undeviating fidelity to the commands of the United Nations has confirmed the promise that the United Nations would be the keystone of Israel's foreign policy.

3) The Experience and Attitude of Israel's People:

The people of Israel, long before the State was formed, fought for the cause and in the armies of the United Nations. It was against the Jewish people that Hitler first declared war, and six million Jews perished in the cause for which the United Nations arose. Their contribution to victory in World War II, both in Palestine and on every front, was far more impressive than that of a number of countries which gave little or nothing to that cause but which nevertheless have been admitted to the United Nations.

III. THE PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCES OF ISRAEL'S ADMISSION

1) Its Significance to the United Nations:

The admission of Israel to the United Nations would be an announcement to the world that the United Nations is prepared to honor its commitments. Delay would be an act of vacillation by the General Assembly which would undermine confidence in that body's disposition and capacity to give effect to its own recommendations. Recommendations of the General Assembly would have little force or meaning to the nations of the world if the Assembly itself were to set an example of indifference to or non-compliance with its own recommendations.

2) As a Contribution to Peace:

The most compelling reason for Israel's admission is that it will, more than any other act at this time, stabilize the situation in the Middle East. Arab aggression against Israel was encouraged by a delusion that Israel could be liquidated. When the Arab States are persuaded to realize that this is an objective impossible of achievement by arms or by diplomatic maneuver, there will be a powerful incentive to reach a peaceful settlement with Israel. But if Israel is denied admission at the forthcoming session, uncertainty will continue for another year, Arab intransigence will be emboldened and the prospects of negotiations leading to a final peace will be gravely prejudiced.

It should be noted that the language of the General Assembly's Resolution, quoted above, deliberately made the admission of the Jewish State independent of the establishment and admission of its neighbor.

It may be argued that Israel's admission should be deferred until an agreement is reached with the Arab States and until Israel has compromised its differences with the Arabs.

Clearly, the situation dictates the opposite course. Agreement with the Arab States is far more likely to be consummated if the international community removes all lingering doubts of Israel's status.

Experience in the Palestine controversy has shown that firm action by the United Nations and its organs facilitated progress towards a solution, and that equivocation and delay retarded a final and lasting settlement.

With the existence of Israel an immutable fact, the establishment of peaceful relations between Israel and its neighbors and the stabilization of the entire Middle East can best be achieved by formal and international confirmation of reality - Israel's acceptance into the family of nations.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date July 28, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Yesterday the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine issued a press statement in which it expressed its opposition to the establishment of Americans United for Israel. I send it to you for your information. The statement is as follows:

The American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine has expressed its opposition to the establishment of Americans United for Israel.

In a letter to Abraham Feinberg, committee member of the new group and former president of the Executive Committee of Americans for Haganah, the Agency Executive called the formation of Americans United for Israel "a flagrant defiance of the decision to dissolve Americans for Haganah," many of whose functions the new organization intends to absorb.

That decision, made public on July 12, pointed out that Haganah as it existed in the past had been dissolved by the State of Israel when it established one national defense army, that the purposes of Americans for Haganah had been fully served and that it would suspend its activities.

"The reasons then stated for the dissolution of Americans for Haganah apply equally to any organization, whatever its name, which, without the approval of the recognized organs of the Zionist movement, nor with any endorsement from the Government of Israel, proposes to carry on the activities referred to in the Executive's statement."

In its new letter, the Executive issued an appeal to persons concerned in Americans United for Israel "to desist from a step which, in the unanimous opinion of this Executive, would be prejudicial to the interests of the Zionist movement in this country and to the cause of Israel."

Kindest regards.

HLS:FB

REPUBLICAN PARTY ADOPTS STRONG PLANK PLEDGING FULL
RECOGNITION TO ISRAEL

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Philadelphia, Pa., June 22 --- The Republican Party has pledged "full recognition" of Israel "with its boundaries as sanctioned by the United Nations," and also has gone on record as favoring "aid in developing its economy."

This strong declaration, which was last night adopted unanimously by the full Resolutions Committee of the Republican National Convention, represents a triumph for American Zionism inasmuch as it embraces the full program presented to the Resolutions Committee by the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, the leader of American Zionism and chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, once again directed the effort to obtain a declaration which would meet the current situation regarding Israel. Four years ago Dr. Silver's leadership brought about the adoption of the now-historic planks on Palestine in the 1944 Republican and Democratic party platforms.

The Zionist effort in Philadelphia was carried forward by Harold P. Manson, Director of Information of the American Zionist Emergency Council and Hyman A. Schulson, counsel to the Council's Washington Bureau.

The Zionist forces had originally hoped that it would be unnecessary to engage in a public discussion of the Israel issue before the Resolutions Committee and that the efforts to bring about a satisfactory plank on Israel would not encounter any opposition. However, after an appearance by Rabbi William Fineshriber, vice-president of the American Council for Judaism, had been scheduled, it was decided that the case for a strong Israel plank should be presented to the Convention. On Friday, June 18, therefore, Mr. Manson spoke before the Committee on Resolutions headed by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., of Massachusetts.

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The unanimous adoption of the final, vigorous plank, rather than the weaker statement which had been drafted by the Subcommittee on Foreign Relations under pressure from certain unfriendly forces in Washington, was achieved by an all-out joint drive in the full Resolutions Committee by the forces of Governor Thomas E. Dewey and Senator Robert A. Taft. The fight in the Committee was led by Senator Irving H. Ives, of New York, who was joined by Austin V. Wood of Wheeling, West Virginia, a leader of the Taft delegation. Vigorous support also came from other Senators of the Committee, including Senator Raymond E. Baldwin of Connecticut, Senator C. Wayland Brooks of Illinois, Senator Eugene D. Hillikin of Colorado, Senator Forrest Donnell of Missouri and Senator E. H. Moore of Oklahoma. Miss Mary Donlon of New York and Chief Justice George W. Maxey of Pennsylvania were among the other Resolutions Committee members who urged the adoption of a forthright plank.

Governor Dewey and Senator Taft both took occasion to insist that a strong declaration be drafted. Their intervention proved to be the major factor in the adoption of the final version. John Foster Dulles, Governor Dewey's adviser on foreign affairs, personally approved the plank -- a fact which made a great impression on the members of the Resolutions Committee.

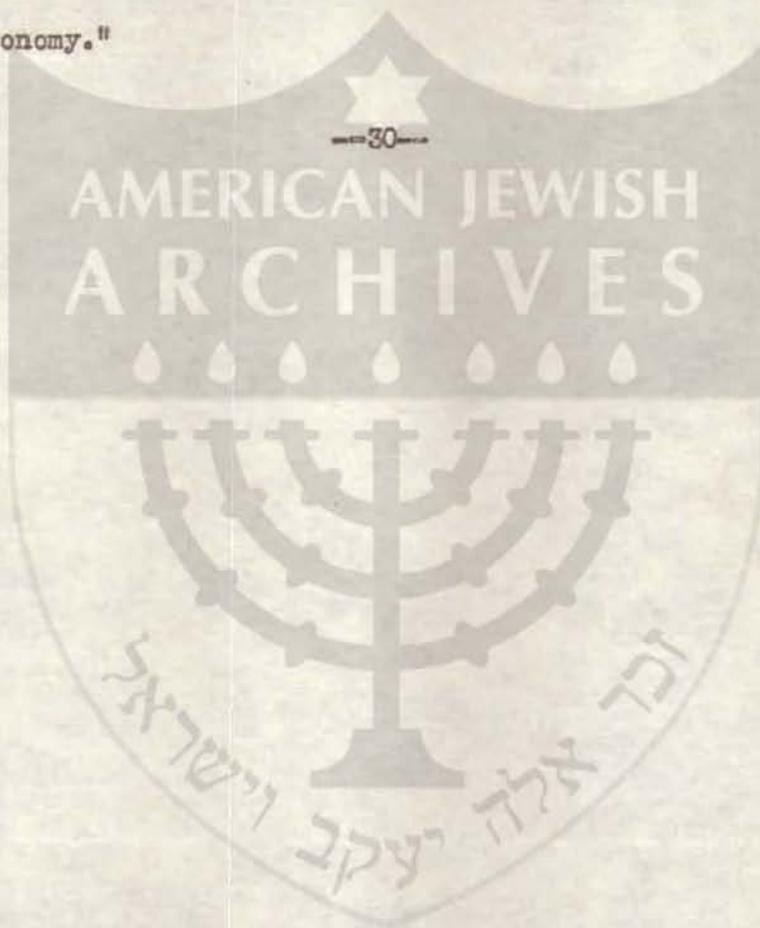
The list of those who fought for the Israel plank is long and impressive, and includes the following names: Roger Strauss of New York; Attorney-General Nathaniel L. Goldstein of New York, who had also played an important role at the 1944 Republican Convention; Senator Owen Brewster of Maine; I. Jack Martin, Senator Taft's administrative assistant; Brigadier General Julius Klein, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans; Rep. Jacob K. Javits of New York; George Sokolsky, the columnist; John R. Crews, Republican chairman of Kings County; and Arthur I. Darman of Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

The full text of the Republican plank on Israel follows:

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"We welcome Israel into the family of nations and take pride in the fact that the Republican Party was the first to call for the establishment of a free and independent Jewish Commonwealth. The vacillation of the Democrat Administration on this question has undermined the prestige of the United Nations. Subject to the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter, we pledge to Israel full recognition, with its boundaries as sanctioned by the United Nations, and aid in developing its economy."

6/22/48



PRESS RELEASE from:

FRANK W. BUXTON, BARTLEY C. CRUM
and JAMES G. McDONALD
New York, N. Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THREE FORMER MEMBERS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY
DEPLORE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT AMBASSADOR PHILLIPS HAS ACCEPTED
THE VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF "COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND"

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FRANK W. BUXTON, BARTLEY C. CRUM AND JAMES G. McDONALD ALSO
TAKE SHARP ISSUE WITH RECENT STATEMENT ON PALESTINE ISSUED BY
DEAN GILDERSLEEVE - KERMIT ROOSEVELT COMMITTEE

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES
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New York -- Three former members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine -- Frank W. Buxton, Bartley C. Crum and James G. McDonald -- today attacked the "Committee for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land," charging that this pro-Arab group "has backed and encouraged Arab aggression in Palestine and has taken an active part in the attempt to sabotage the United Nations decision on Palestine."

The three onetime members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine simultaneously greeted "with sorrow and bewilderment" the appointment of William Phillips, their former colleague on the Anglo-American investigation group, to the vice-chairmanship of the "Committee for Peace and Justice in the Holy Land."

"It is difficult for us to comprehend how a man of Mr. Phillips' integrity can join a group which, its record proves, has backed and encouraged Arab aggression in Palestine and has taken an active part in the attempt to sabotage the United Nations decision on Palestine," the former members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry stated.

Lashing out at the "Committee for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land" --

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which is headed by Dean Gildersleeve and Kermit Roosevelt -- the three former members charged that this pro-Arab group was seeking a "frank alliance... with the Arab League against the State of Israel and the Jewish people." In their joint statement, Messrs. Buxton, Crum and McDonald assailed "the blind partisanship of the Gildersleeve Committee," and commented that "Justice and Peace in the Holy Land" cannot possibly be attained by flouting the United Nations which is the one authoritative expression of mankind's quest for justice and peace."

The full text of their statement follows:

The news that our much respected colleague on the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, Ambassador William Phillips has joined the self styled "Committee for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land" has caused us both sorrow and bewilderment. It is difficult for us to comprehend how a man of Mr. Phillips' integrity can join a group, which, its record proves, has backed and encouraged Arab aggression in Palestine and has taken an active part in the attempt to sabotage the United Nations decision on Palestine.

The announcement of Mr. Phillips' descent into the Gildersleeve-Kermit Roosevelt Committee was accompanied by a statement of that Committee's views on the current Palestine situation.

The first three of the four recommendations advocated by the Gildersleeve statement are so full of sweetness and light that when we read them our first reaction was to check the authorship of the statement. Each one of us would gladly support Count Bernadotte's peace efforts, encourage the pacification of the Middle East and urge economic development of that area in the interests of all the people inhabiting it.

The blind partisanship of the Gildersleeve Committee becomes apparent when one reaches the fourth and last recommendation. Here, there are no more honeyed generalities, but a frank alliance of the Committee with the Arab League against the State of Israel and the Jewish people. Here, Miss Gildersleeve (and Ambassador Phillips?) raise their voice against "extreme Zionist pressure here,

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with the insistence on separate Jewish nationalism, etc." One looks in vain for the Committee's protest against open Arab defiance of the United Nations and brutal Arab aggression against Israel.

In conclusion, let us state our deep conviction that "Justice and Peace in the Holy Land" cannot possibly be attained by flouting the United Nations which is the one authoritative expression of mankind's quest for justice and peace. Nor can justice and peace be attained by Arab shelling and destroying of the holy shrines of Jerusalem, the capital and eternal symbol of the Holy Land.

Frank W. Buxton

Bartley C. Crum

James G. McDonald

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

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6/21/48

For further information contact:
William D. Kaufman
TRIBUTE TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER
Room 1426
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.
MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GREAT TRIBUTE PLANNED FOR DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

WORLD FIGURES WILL JOIN AMERICAN ZIONISTS IN HONORING JEWISH LEADER
ON EVE OF HIS DEPARTURE FOR PALESTINE

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

New York, Dec. 19 -- Leaders of Zionism in this country will join with some of the most prominent figures in America and the United Nations in paying tribute to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver for his successful leadership of the Jewish cause before the United Nations, it was announced today by the sponsoring committee of a testimonial dinner to Dr. Silver, which will take place at the Hotel Astor, New York City, on the evening of Monday, December 29, 1947.

This tribute to the leader of American Zionism and the chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine will be tendered on the eve of Dr. Silver's departure for Palestine and will represent an expression of gratitude and affection on the part of the Zionist movement, the sponsoring committee declared.

Dr. Israel Goldstein, national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, one of the initial sponsors of the testimonial dinner, pointed out that "Dr. Silver is deserving of the lasting gratitude of the Zionist movement and of the Jewish people, not only for his masterly presentation of the Jewish case before the UN, but also for his mobilization of American Jewry in the winning of the American people and Government for the Zionist program. The United States backing of the UNSCOP majority report was decisive in securing the 2/3 vote in the UN Assembly.

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I am convinced that Dr. Silver's generalship of the Zionist forces in America in the last few years, more than any other single factor, has been responsible for the achievement of this result."

In addition to Dr. Goldstein, other initial sponsors of the event include: Herbert H. Lehman, former Governor of the State of New York; Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Zionist Organization of America; and Herbert Bayard Swope, prominent civic leader.

The committee asserted that a large number of world figures will be present to honor Dr. Silver. An incomplete list of those who will be present includes: Moshe Shertok, head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine; Professor Enrique Rodriguez Fabregat, delegate to the United Nations from Uruguay; Dr. Jorge Garcia Granados, UN delegate from Guatemala; Senator Irving M. Ives from New York; Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, general secretary of the Church Peace Union and of the World Alliance for International Friendship through the Churches; and Col. Julius Klein, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States.

Only a limited number of reservations for the dinner are still available, the committee announced, and pointed out that those wishing to attend should get in touch immediately with the sponsoring group's headquarters, Room 1426, 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

12/19/47

BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICES
AN AGENCY OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

PRESS SERVICE

For Immediate Release
R. 4108

FULL TEXT OF SPECIAL COMMUNIQUE ON PALESTINE DISORDERS

JERUSALEM, October 11--(By Cable)--The following is the full text of the official communique released today jointly by the Officer Administering the Government of Palestine, J.V.W. Shaw, and the Commander-in-Chief Middle East Forces, General Sir Bernard Paget:

The Officer Administering the Government of Palestine and the Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Forces, have consulted together regarding the situation in this country. As a result they wish seriously to impress upon the public, especially the Jewish public, the following pronouncement.

AMERICAN JEWISH

Palestine, through the exertions and sacrifices of His Majesty's forces and the forces of the Allies, has enjoyed for five years virtual immunity from the horrors of war which have caused such unspeakable suffering elsewhere. Since early in the present year, Palestine has, however, been the scene of a series of outrages, crimes of violence by Jewish terrorists acting with the deliberate intention of bringing about by force developments favorable to the realization of political aims.

Officers and men of the security services have been murdered in cold blood and shot while doing their duty in the defense of life and property; innocent passers-by have been killed; government buildings to the value of scores of thousands of pounds have been destroyed by explosives and fire. An attempt providentially unsuccessful, was made to assassinate His Majesty's representative in ambush.

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Those events are proceeding side by side with the bitterest phase of the critical fight between the United Nations and Nazi Germany, the cruelest, most implacable and most ruthless persecutor the long history of Jewry has ever known. The Criminals in Palestine with their active and passive sympathizers, are directly impeding the war effort of Great Britain which is playing such a vital part in the struggle against Hitler. They are assisting the enemy. These facts will not be overlooked by public opinion throughout the civilized world.

Every practicable measure is being taken by the Army and the police in difficult circumstances to prevent these crimes, to detect the authors of them and their accomplices and to bring them to justice. These measures will continue with all the resources, civil and military, available to the Government and the Army.

Mr. Shaw, Officer Administering the Government of Palestine, and General Sir Bernard Paget, Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Forces, call upon the Jewish community as a whole to do their utmost to assist the forces of law and order in eradicating this evil thing within their midst. Verbal condemnation of outrages, on the platform and in the press, may have its effect but is not in itself enough. What is required is actual collaboration with the forces of law and order, especially the giving of information leading to the apprehension of the assassins and their accomplices.

Accordingly His Excellency and the Commander-in-Chief now call upon the Jewish community in Palestine, their leaders and representative bodies, to recognize and discharge their responsibilities and not to allow the good name of the Yishuv to be prejudiced by acts which can only bring shame and dishonor on the Jewish people as a whole.

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BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICES
AN AGENCY OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

PRESS SERVICE

For Immediate Release
R.4107

STATEMENT IN HOUSE OF COMMONS ON PALESTINE DISORDERS

LONDON, October 11--(By Cable)---The following is a statement on the Palestine disorders, made by Colonel Oliver Stanley, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in the House of Commons today:

There has unfortunately been a recrudescence of Jewish terrorist activities in Palestine.

On the night of September 27, attacks were made on four police stations by members of Irgun, the new Zionist organization. They were planned and executed by a force estimated to have been at least 150 strong, armed with bombs and automatic weapons. There were casualties among the Palestinian police and civilians and considerable damage was done to police buildings. Casualties were also inflicted on the terrorists, and two men were arrested, one of whom had been wounded. Quantities of ammunition, two bombs and Irgun flags were seized. On the morning of September 29, a senior British police officer, Mr. J.T. Wilkin, of the C.I.D. was assassinated while walking to his office in Jerusalem. The assailants escaped.

On the night of October 5/6, the Tel Aviv offices and stores of the Department of Light Industries were raided by 50 persons, some of whom were armed, and textiles valued at 100,00 pounds were removed. The raiders announced themselves as being members of the Irgun Zionist League.

These attacks, the object of which is to further political aims, seriously impeded the war effort of the United Nations and can do nothing but harm to the Jewish cause. They are the work of a relatively small body of extremists and are condemned by responsible leaders of Jewry in Palestine and throughout the world. I am sure that the whole House will join me in condemning these outrages and in expressing its sympathy with the victims of this murderous campaign.

End

Zionism



AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

With the Compliments of
the Acting British Consul
at Denver

The attached is an extract from
"Weekly War Notes", published by
the British Information Services
30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20,
New York

TERRORISM IN PALESTINE

October 19, 1944

It is a particularly bitter experience for Britain to be compelled to take armed action against the terrorism of Jewish Nationalist extremists.

Of all the countries of Europe Britain more than any has held Jews in high esteem. Scorning mere 'tolerance' she has chosen many Jews for posts of the highest honour in the nation. Jews from other lands have been welcomed into Britain when forced to flee from persecution on the Continent. The British Army is now the only one with an all-Jewish brigade. For the size of the country and her resources, Britain can claim to have been the most generous friend of Jewry.

This is a claim of which she is very proud, so it is something of a shock to find herself denounced by extremists as hardly, if any, better than the most vicious enemy of Jews in all history - Nazi Germany.

To have sponsored in the Balfour Declaration the idea of a Jewish national home in Palestine, in face of the appallingly complex difficulties of race and religion involved, seems almost quixotically generous. Yet, despite the difficulties, the principle of the Balfour Declaration has been applied faithfully, patiently and with determination. For this Britain and British officials in Palestine have received more bullets than bouquets.

Part of the failure to understand the obligations that Britain has assumed in Palestine is due to the tendency of those who quote the Balfour Declaration to quote only the first half of it. Britain is obligated under the second half just as much as the first. The full text is as follows:

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

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INDEPENDENT
JEWISH PRESS SERVICE, Inc.

207 Fourth Avenue, New York City

12.14.42

MINORITY RABBIS CONSPIRE WITH HANDFUL WEALTHY JEWS TO FIGHT ZION-
ISM IN U.S.A. AND PALESTINE

.....

Irreligious Asked to Join Religious Reform Jews to
Strengthen Anti-Zionist War

.....

Anti-Zionist Leader Claims Pipeline to State Department
And Cabinet Members

.....

Smashing of American Jewish Committee Threatened by Group
Calling Itself Council for American Judaism if Outright

Anti-Zionist Platform Rejected

.....

Philadelphia (JPS) -- With the objective of splitting all of American Jewish life, war has been pledged on Zionism and on all persons and institutions sympathetic to that program, with the wealth of influential Jews and the power even of irreligious Jews mobilized in order to smash every gain the Zionist movement has made in the United States and Palestine in forty years.

That is the ambitious goal set for itself by the group innocuously called the Council for American Judaism, which was born in this city six weeks ago

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although its birth was announced only this week. Dedicated to battle against those who would build up the Jewish National Home in Palestine, the initial meeting was held, ironically enough, in Temple Rodeph Shalom, which means "pursuit of peace"; a name doubly ironic because the secret session took place in the City of Brotherly Love. As though to symbolize the contempt which they have for the Balfour Declaration and its purposes, the anti-Zionist rabbis held their first gathering here on November 2nd and perfected their plans on November 23rd. Behind them, they contend, are some of the most powerful and wealthy Jews in America, who, one of the conveners alleged, have the power of persuasion over the State Department and ready access to present these anti-Zionist views to other members of the United States Cabinet.

The Independent Jewish Press Service has learned the secret background of the Council and, because of the extraordinary issues raised and the outstanding personalities involved, decided to make the lengthy material available to the general public. These are some of the elements involved in a drama which derives special significance from the present situation in Europe, where millions of Jews are being slaughtered by the Nazis.

(1) A small group of anti-Zionist Reform rabbis, many of them retired from their pulpits because of super annuation, has undertaken a wide-ranging political program against Zionism, to which these rabbis allegedly object because it is political in character. Asserting that Zionism is "secular" and "irreligious" and that that is why Reform Judaism, as they understand it, opposes it, these anti-Zionist rabbis have decided to enlist irreligious Jews as well as the religious in order to attempt to achieve their anti-Zionist aims, long rejected by the majority of American Jewish leaders.

(2) The names of Morris Wolf, prominent Philadelphia lawyer, associated with Lessing Rosenwald, of this city, Henry Ittleson, wealthy head of Commercial Investment Trust, Arthur Hays Sulzberger, publisher of the New York Times, Samuel Leidesdorf, prominent New York accountant, Paul Baerwald, Honorary Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, are among those of laymen involved in the remarkable story.

(3) Match that lit the anti-Zionist fire of these rabbis and laymen into flame was Sidney Wallach, until recently "educational director" of the American Jewish Committee, retiring from that body under unknown circumstances. But a decade ago, Mr. Wallach was the editor of the New Palestine, official organ of the Zionist Organization of America. Another person associated with the tale is Dr. Maurice Hexter, now Executive Vice-President of the New York Jewish Federation, but prior to that for many years in Palestine as the Felix Warburg-named member of the Jewish Agency Executive.

(4) Secretary of State Hull's department can be "reached" by this anti-Zionist group, one member of it, Rabbi William Fineshriber, of this city, claims, quoting a statement of anti-Zionist intent by one of the leading members of the State Department.

(5) Rabbi Lazon also undertook to "see" Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes before he delivered his speech on December 6th at the National Council.

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of the United Palestine Appeal in New York in order to present the anti-Zionist position to the Secretary. Whether he "saw" him or not, Mr. Ickes said not one word about Palestine at a National Palestine gathering.

(6) Among the epithets hurled at various other leading American Jewish personalities were these: Adolph H. Rosenberg, head of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, was described as an "appeaser" by Rabbi Louis Wolsey of Philadelphia; Rabbi James G. Heller, President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and Rabbi Israel Goldstein, President of the Synagogue Council of America, were both denounced as using these organizations for Zionist purposes; the American Jewish Committee itself, under present control, was charged with having "ducked" the Zionist issue.

Campaign for Large Funds

To achieve its purposes, the Council for American Judaism, a name proposed by Rabbi Lazaron, has launched a campaign for \$25,000 in the first month. It was assured, however, by Morris Wolfe, attorney for wealth in Philadelphia, that "far more" was in sight as soon as the campaign got started. On the advice of a "public relations" counsel that it would look "nicer" to have a rabbi instead of a layman as the executive director of the organization, youthful Rabbi Elmer Berger, of Flint, Mich., did not have to be persuaded too hard by Rabbi Wolsey to take the post.

Meeting of November 2nd

The story is best told as it unfolded itself at two intimate and private meetings at Rabbi Wolsey's Rodeph Shalom in this City of Brotherly Love. Rabbi Wolsey was in the chair. Others present were venerable Rabbi Samuel Goldenson of New York's Temple Emanu-El, William Rosenau, Morris Lazaron, A. D. Shaw and Abraham Shusterman, the last four of Baltimore, William Fineshriber of this city, H. J. Schachtel, Isaac Landman of New York, Norman Gerstenfeld of Washington, emeritus David Philipson of Cincinnati, emeritus Solomon Foster of Newark and C. A. Rubenstein of Baltimore.

The aged Rabbi Goldenson introduced Mr. Sidney Wallach, until recently with the American Jewish Committee but now a "free lance" in public relations. Mr. Wallach, once the editor of the official Zionist organ, told the group that non-Zionism was the most important issue in American Jewish life and that the failure of this cause would be harmful to everything American Jewry values. This opposition movement is the last stand of the anti-Zionist forces, he stressed, and to achieve its objective an organized group must be fought with organization. The Zionists, he charged, have captured the organs and media of public opinion. In his view, the number of Zionists is very small. Most of them had been "taken in" and were, in reality, only philanthropically minded. He said that it would be regrettable if the anti-nationalist remained Reform. A place should be found for the non-Reform, even the irreligious anti-Zionist. Let the irreligious Jew find his place in American Jewish life, but not the place the Zionists want him to have. The American Jewish Committee, he charged, has "ducked" this issue. Its members were not aggressively anti-Zionist, although they were and are basically anti-Zionist.

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Mr. Wallach's plan involved "grooming for action" several thousand people, at least one representative in every city, who would fight for a hearing and who would have, according to Mr. Wallach, the same functions as a Christian Science representative in a community. He declared that Dr. Magnes was "crucified" by the Jewish press. To reveal this, he stated, would reveal the unreliability of the Zionists, showing the parallelism between the German 19th century mysticism and Zionist ideology. This would help show up Zionist errors. Even the "gad-fly", he declared, has a place in the establishing of the truth.

At this point, Mr. Wallach modestly suggested that he did not want to earn his living doing this type of public relations, but, after all, he would have to have the "burden of making a living lifted" from him, if he were to do this public relations work.

The aged Rabbi Philipson said he had come from Cincinnati to present the point of view of Mr. Adolph Rosenberg, leader of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Mr. Rosenberg felt the group must have a "positive" view, with Americanism as its central theme. The only salvation for Judaism, he felt, was to identify this movement with Americanism. Dr. Philipson said he shared that view and would return to Cincinnati to organize a group on that basis. But this was not satisfactory to Rabbi Wolsey, who said that in his relations with the U.A.H.C., Mr. Rosenberg had been an appeaser.

Rabbi Rosenau said that the Baltimore rabbis had given a great deal of thought to this cause. It was their endeavor to create a non-U.A.H.C. organ of Reform Judaism. It was his thought, however, that stressing of the American keynote would cast aspersion on thousands of those who differ. They claim to be Americans and are loyal Americans. The movement, he felt, is a religious one in opposing Zionism.

Rabbi Schachtel was impatient to proceed with practical matters and said the immediate engagement of a person such as Mr. Wallach was essential. Rabbi Fineshriber agreed that the group ought to follow Mr. Wallach's plan. It was necessary to have a person like Wallach or to start a magazine, for financial reasons.

Mr. Wallach responded that a "man's-size job must be done by a man", whether himself or somebody else. He felt it would be wise to get clarification of the views of Wendell Willkie and Secretary of Hull on Zionism. In his view, money-raising for anti-Zionist purposes should be very easy. He knew many men who would be ready to contribute.

Dr. Goldenson agreed to this, saying once a man was engaged, the financial support would flow in.

Rabbi Foster was opposed to joining with irreligious Jews, saying his antagonism to Zionism was of religious origin.

Rabbi Lazon asked the practical questions: how much would Wallach's services entail? What would he do if he had the money? How would he raise the money?

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Mr. Wallach said he would need from \$7,200 to \$7,500 a year. He would get busy doing the kind of thing he had been talking about, get a hearing for anti-Zionism. One magazine was not enough. If we show we mean business, Wallach said, groups in every city will contribute, especially if we can get tax-exemption. The zealots in every city must be found. He believed that anti-nationalism would strengthen Reform, rather than Reform strengthen anti-nationalism.

Rabbi Gerstenfeld of Washington was satisfied. He would call his laymen together promptly to raise funds.

Would Use Yiddish Press

Mr. Wallach suggested a key group of individuals in New York to supervise the spending of the money and the conduct of the work. This group would have to have freedom to work and to make decisions. The Yiddish press, he suggested, should be approached, so that with "friends" inside, an occasional item would be published to inject doubt of Zionism in the readers' minds.

Rabbi Schachtel wanted to know whether "our movement is to be pro-Reform or anti-nationalist." In his view, the main program should be "anti-nationalist." Rabbi Landman said he did not like to see an anti-program but a positive one. Rabbi Shaw agreed.

Then the discussion went on, with suggestions being offered for various types of magazines, methods of getting tax exemption, and putting speakers onto various lecture platforms. Rabbi Goldenson asked whether the group should identify itself solely with Reform or strike the larger American note. He was for the latter, although sole identification with either would be a limitation on any money-raising venture.

It was Rabbi Gerstenfeld, seconded by Rabbi Philipson, who proposed that \$25,000 be raised in one month, that Mr. Wallach be engaged and a program be worked out for the year. The motion carried.

After adjournment for lunch, Dr. Goldenson started off the afternoon proceedings by reading, as though it was a document from the patron saint, the letter in the New York Times of November 1st from Dr. Judah L. Magnes, President of the Hebrew University. Each of the men, led off by Rabbi Philipson, explained how he was going to raise funds in his city for this crusade. With Rabbi Lazon as chairman, a committee was appointed to formulate objectives. Other members were Goldenson, Schachtel, Gerstenfeld and Finshriber.

Rabbi Wise Reports on Meeting

The second meeting of the group, called in the same temple here on November 23rd, heard a letter read from Rabbi Jonah B. Wise of New York, a National Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and fund-raising chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, who described a meeting held in New York on November 16th to consider purposes in which Rabbi Wolsey's group was extremely interested.

Rabbi Wise dismissed the importance of the answer to the 95 anti-Zionist rabbis signed by 733 rabbis. He declared that only 199 of the 476

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members of the Central Conference of American Rabbis were included. He pointed out that neither Dr. Julian Morgenstern, President of the Hebrew Union College, nor Rabbi Louis Finkelstein, President of the Jewish Theological Seminary, had joined the 733 rabbis.

A report on a meeting which he and Rabbi Wolsey had had with Morris Wolf, a member of the American Jewish Committee, was given by Rabbi Fineshriber. The most violent clash in the long history of the American Jewish Committee is now in progress. Mr. Wolf is alleged to have said that if the candidate who succeeds Maurice Wertheim is non-Zionist, he and his group would supply the Lazaron-Wolsey combination with funds. If the anti-Zionists failed to gain control of the American Jewish Committee, they might secede and their funds would be available in any case. In either case, Rabbi Fineshriber was assured by Mr. Wolf that sums far exceeding the hoped-for \$25,000 would become available.

Another letter was then read by Rabbi Wolsey from Rabbi Jonah B. Wise. In it the latter described a meeting in New York on November 16. Those present were Alan M. Stroock, son of the late President of the American Jewish Committee; William Rosenwald, President of the National Refugee Service and a National Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal; Paul Baerwald, Honorary Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee; Arthur Hays Sulzberger, publisher of the New York Times, who, in four years, made no contribution to the United Jewish Appeal on the ground of his principle objections to Palestine; Edward M.M. Warburg, a lieutenant and Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee; Maurice Hexter, once a member of the Jewish Agency Executive in Jerusalem; George Backer, President of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency; Samuel Leidesdorf, Treasurer of the New York United Jewish Appeal; Edgar Nathan, Manhattan Borough President; Henry S. Hendricks, and Henry Ittleson, head of Commercial Investment Trust, who, in 1942, reduced his contribution to the United Jewish Appeal to \$50,000 from the \$100,000 of the previous year. Excuses for absence were sent by Judge Samuel Roseman, confidant of President Roosevelt; Lewis Rosenstiel, head of Schenley Distillers, Nathan Ohrbach, New York merchant, and Alexander Kahn, managing editor of the Jewish Daily Forward. Joseph M. Proskauer, leading and violent anti-Zionist candidate for the Presidency of the American Jewish Committee, conveyed his views to the group in a letter.

Rabbi Wise told the Philadelphia meeting in his letter to Rabbi Wolsey that the New York gathering of November 16th had reached certain conclusions on their common interests and that Maurice Hexter had been instructed to report as soon as possible on a program of procedure and an outline of probable enterprise. Rabbi Wise concluded that he and Rabbi Goldenson were very much pleased with the results of the meeting. There is no doubt, Rabbi Jonah Wise reported, that these laymen mean business. What the Zionists regarded as a Victory for themselves the men present at the Rabbi Wise meeting regarded, on the contrary, as a victory for their own viewpoint. The reference was to a big story in the New York Times (whose publisher was present at the Wise meeting and who is related by marriage to Rabbi Wise) headed "733 Rabbis Rebuke Anti-Zionist Jews." The anti-Zionists at the Wise meeting regarded the story as an evidence of progress and as giving public notice that not all American Jews were Zionists.

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At this point, Rabbi Israel Goldstein, President of the Synagogue Council, came in for sharp criticism from Rabbi Schachtel, who charged that Goldstein was using the Synagogue Council for Zionist purposes. He reported that he had secured the consent of Rabbi James Heller for a change in the constitution to permit, hereafter, a vote by majority instead of unanimously. As criticism was offered, letters were read in criticism of Rabbi Julius Gordon of St. Louis for his activities as Chairman of the Committee on Palestine of the C.C.A.R. He was alleged to be acting without authority. Rabbi Heller and Rabbi Barnett Brickner of Cleveland were charged with making replacements on C.C.A.R. commissions of Zionists almost exclusively.

During the discussion on the question of an executive director, it was pointed out that Sidney Wallach had advised that it would be better for a rabbi than for a layman to be chosen. Rabbi Elmer Berger was then selected, to obtain "a salary commensurate with the position." A lay public relations adviser, to be Wallach, was also agreed upon, the actual choice to await the gathering of funds. Rabbi Wolsey phoned Rabbi Berger and received his "enthusiastic acceptance."

Rabbi Fineshriber then summed up the achievements of the group:

1. we have stirred up the Zionists and the country at large to a realization of the opposition;
2. we have started the first effective collective action on the part of American rabbis in opposition to Jewish nationalism;
3. Rabbi Lazon has to his credit the achievement of wide publicity for Arthur Hays Sulzberger's anti-Zionist speech in Baltimore;
4. we have 96 actively interested rabbis.

Rabbi Lazon reported that he has already received some funds for his so-called Lay-Rabbinic Committee, the forerunner of what is now the Council of American Judaism, a name unanimously chosen after Rabbi Lazon had suggested it. It was pointed out that the name has several advantages. 1. It meets the desires of the financial backers; 2. it meets the request of Adolph Rosenberg, President of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, for emphasis on Americanism; 3. it defines the aims of the group, it was said.

Rabbi William Rosenblum of New York was chosen chairman of a committee, with Rabbis Schachtel and Nathan Perilman, assistant to Rabbi Goldenson, to draw up incorporation papers and a constitution. They will submit their work to Lazon, Wolsey, David Lefkowitz of Dallas, Julian Feibelman of New Orleans, Irving Reichert of San Francisco, Louis Binstock of Chicago and Dr. Leo Franklin, retired Detroit rabbi.

The management of a lecture bureau, to send speakers all over the country to spread anti-Zionism, was entrusted to Solomon Foster, retired rabbi of Newark, who will operate the bureau from his home. Rabbi Foster reported he had already obtained \$1,500 in Newark for his work.

The rabbis, who continuously emphasize that they are in favor of the upbuilding of Palestine although they oppose Zionism, agreed that it would be an excellent thing to have their next meeting in New York on December 7th, because it was the day following the meeting of the National Council of the United Palestine Appeal, which is a non-partisan fund-raising organization for Palestine. They could then deal with the subject matter of that meeting.

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State Department Against Zionists?

Rabbi Fineshriber then told the gathering that a prominent Washington official, not indicating whether this might be Mr. Lessing Rosenwald, Chief of the Salvage Division, a Philadelphian, had learned from the State Department, which has the final authority with respect to the American attitude toward Palestine, that it had not yielded to the pressure brought by the Zionists on Congressmen. On the contrary, Rabbi Fineshriber's highly placed informant alleged, the State Department was considerably annoyed by it.

Rabbi Lazon then urged all anti-Zionists to attend en masse the Institute on Justice and Peace, being held at the Hebrew Union College on December 21st-24th. He thought attempts would be made to issue a Zionist-colored statement.

It was also decided to ask Maurice Wertheim, retiring president of the American Jewish Committee, to meet with Rabbi Lazon, Fineshriber and Wolsey to discuss methods of securing money from "his" contingent of the Committee.

Rabbi Schachtel urged communication with Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes to inform him of the anti-Zionist cause before he addressed the United Palestine Appeal conference in New York on December 6th. Rabbi Lazon said that he would arrange for this through his contacts. (At the U.P.A. gathering, Mr. Ickes said nothing whatever about Palestine.)

And that is how the meeting closed: with the decision to meet again on December 7th, a date notorious in history for the treacherous Japanese attack on America by a group which had secretly planned its deed for months while publicly expressing its good will and sympathy.

UNITED JEWISH LAYMAN'S COMMITTEE, INC.

MESSAGE OF ISRAEL

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Every Sunday, 10-10:30 A. M. N.Y. Time

David J. Wise, Program Director

IMPRESSIONS OF THE JEWISH STATE

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise

October 22nd, 1950.

My dear friends of the "Message of Israel", when I last spoke to you I told you that I would report to you about my visit to Palestine and to Europe. I am now ready to carry out that promise, and assure you that I am more than happy to be able to talk with you again this morning.

First I want to thank the American Broadcasting Company, both the office in New York and the office in Paris, for their cooperation for this message. Our relationship with the American Broadcasting Company in the past has always been so cordial that one really feels like thanking them for every "Message" that they are able and willing to bring to you, scattered not only through continental America but in many parts of the world.

I believe we are the largest congregation of worshippers in the history of our great religion. We are blessed with the privilege of communicating over the radio from one end of the country to the other; I from one end of the world to the other. So from across the waters I speak to you about things which I know are of great interest to you and which have greatly impressed me.

First let me say that I met with the staff and executives of the Joint Distribution Committee in Paris. These executives and this staff came from many countries; 19 in all. Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, Belgium, Greece, Holland, Austria, Germany and countries in North Africa such as Morocco, Tunis, Tripolitania; and from Iran and Israel. They discussed the problems which confront all of us as a great responsibility of American Jewry: that is, the relief and reconstruction of the men, women, and children who are still the flotsam and jetsam cast upon many shores by the frightful storms of the wars through which we have gone. They brought the reports of their work and the work of our great organization amongst the men and women of these 19 countries. Whether it was a man from Morocco in Africa or one from Spain or one from Greece or from Iran, it is the story of a great service from the hearts of a great people, the Jewish community of America, to their brethren of all tongues and of all kinds.

One thing I must say to you that is, I think, of great importance. As I turned my face toward Israel I realized that the Joint Distribution Committee have been responsible for sending and paying for the transportation to Israel of 448,826 human beings from May 15, 1948 until December 31, 1950. The Joint Distribution Committee, your great American organization, paid the expenses of 84 4/10 percent of all the migration to Israel of those unhappy people who have gone there and of whose story we are still to hear.

When I turned my face toward Palestine, I did so with a feeling that I might find myself greatly discouraged over the picture which I had had presented to me by persons who had visited there in the past year, but I also looked at a memory which I carried with me. It was a memory of my father of blessed memory - Rabbi Isaac M. Wise of Cincinnati. In 1863, on the 17th day of April, he published a statement in

the AMERICAN ISRAELITE entitled "The Society to Colonize Palestine". Remember: this was in 1863. He said:

"The attention of the readers has frequently been called to a European society for the colonization of Palestine by Hebrew agriculturists and mechanics. The matter certainly deserves consideration, not only because thousands of dollars are annually sent to the poor of Palestine without any permanent improvement of their condition. If anything is to be done, it must be something permanent.

"Palestine is a classical country, even more so than Greece, Asia Minor, or Italy. Ten thousand recollections sacred to humanity are connected with the spots named in Bible and history. However indifferent one feels toward the land as a land, he cannot divest himself of a certain reverence and even awe that so many centuries inspire for the spots where our kings ruled, our bards sung, our prophets poured forth the glowing stream of inspired words; the daughters of Zion, the Sulamiths and the Deborahs lived, and the sons of Israel fought heroic battles against all the mighty nations of antiquity. No intelligent mind can feel indifferent toward the land of liberty's birthplace, the cradle of civilization, the everlasting foundation to the temple of justice, the cornerstone in the superstructure of humanity - the land to which now the innumerable pilgrims of the three civilizing religions look with pious awe. It is mortifying to think, that the sons of the Maccabees, the remains of the ancient race of God-inspired heroes, now in that country, are in a wretched condition.

"Therefore, we suppose, if anything is to be done for Palestine, it must be something reasonable and permanent.

"All that could and should be done is to bring an industrious population into that country to develop its rich resources; and gain the rising generation of the present population to European and industrial habits. The 'land which floweth with milk and honey' is as productive, the soil as rich, and the climate as congenial as in days of yore."

Thus wrote my father in 1863, long before the modern movement toward Palestine known as Zionism began. He never retreated from that position, and I dare say that none of us have ever retreated from that position; and so when one turns toward the land of Israel one turns to it with a previous love and knowledge and with a willingness to forgive and forget many of the difficulties and mistakes and to see with a kindly eye that which is possible and that which is feasible.

I now tell you that when one hovers over the land of Israel - and hover one does since one goes by air and descends from the skies towards the soil - it is only natural for the Hebrew Scripture to cry out to one from the earth. In the story of Adam, it says that God told man he should "till the earth and subdue it". The first thing that strikes one as one comes into the land of Israel is the tremendous effort being made by men and women who are wrestling with the earth and trying to subdue it, all too often a barren and rocky soil. The Jews found an exhausted and tortured land, deforested, deroaded and they have tried to restore it and in most instances they have succeeded brilliantly.

I am accustomed to the wide sweep of the great prairies of the Middle West, and the mountains and valleys of Oregon. To me, therefore, the struggle with the land in Israel seemed - because of the limitations of the soil and water - even more heroic than the efforts of those who first created the commonwealths of our great Far West.

Israel is a land of tradition. One can hear the voice of the Prophets, - Amos, Isaiah, Hosea - crying out against evil and shouting aloud "I, the Lord, hate injustice with robbery". One cannot see Amos and Isaiah, but one can hear their voices

in a country which has been built into a democracy unexcelled anywhere in its zeal for justice and human equality, unique in that part of the world where Israel, a small land, is trying to establish a new and redeeming culture. In fact, Israel is a fair oasis in the great social rubble of the Near East.

There are no mendicants anymore in Israel. There are people in huts, there are people in scanty clothes, people with no money, meager food. But there are no beggars.

It is a land of tradition, as I said, but it defies the past where the past has not served unswervingly the ideal of Israel. It is a land of unflinching and pitiless piety, but also a land of volatile scepticism. It is a land of the West grappling with the East. It is a land of hope within the narrow scope of its land space and within the much narrower scope of its short history since it was proclaimed a nation by the United Nations of the world.

I sometimes think of Byron's poem in this connection in which he says of the Jews:

"Tribes of the wandering foot and weary breast;
How shall ye flee away and be at rest?
The wild dove hath her nest;
The fox, his cave;
Mankind, their country;
Israel, but the grave."

That may be true of millions who have died during the War. It may still be true of those millions of flotsam and jetsam I spoke about, aided by the Joint Distribution Committee, groping for a haven of rest and a place of their own, but it is no longer true of those who are taking part in the restoration and resurrection of the land of Israel.

More than all the rest put together, it is a "land of milk and honey". When I say that, I don't mean that there is plenty in Palestine. Physical plenty does not exist. They could have had it if they had not taken in hundreds of thousands of immigrants who were brought there by the Joint Distribution Committee and helped there by the United Palestine Appeal. The Government of Israel has kept its gates wide open to the poor of the world, to the dispossessed of the world. In doing so, it has increasingly demanded of its own people the strictest discipline, heavy taxes - heavier far than we can impose on ourselves. Yet it is a land flowing with milk and honey. It is the milk of great humanity and the honey of a tremendous energy. It is true that a man does not sit alone there under his vine and under his fig tree, but he sits crowded in with those who have come to live with him and in many respects to live off him. No matter what their religion, or the religion of the men and women who were there, is, they all bow down to "Horachamon", the All-merciful. Honey there is in plenty, the honey of industry and honest toil.

I spoke in the beginning of the command "Till the earth and subdue it". One sees that from Beersheba to Dan, one sees also the great, enormous piety of a humanity which has risen above prayer, which has risen above ritual, and which will rise to such heights that in the days to come you and I in our lives and in the lives of our children will witness the resurrection not only of a land pitifully impoverished by years of tyranny and neglect but also of a people rising in their strength toward salvation for themselves and honor for all humanity through their effort, through their zeal, and through their faith.

And that is in general the picture which one takes away from the land of Israel. I shall tell you more when by God's will I shall return, but in the meantime I send you my blessing, my prayers. I thank you very much.

RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN
TEMPLE EMANUEL
EAST 16TH AVENUE & PEARL STREET
DENVER 5, COLORADO

DATE _____

American Jews Palestine

TO:

1. Gayim - Palestine (Senate report)
 2. Division between Jews
 - a. non-Zionists
 - b. anti-Zionists
 - c. most Reform Jews in favor

 3. No ~~and~~ citizenship.
 4. Cultural interrelationship
 5. Financial support
 6. Pride, above all.
-